

P A T E N T C L A I M S

1. Conjugate comprising
a. a biospecific affinity counterpart (target-seeking group)
5 that is capable of binding to a predetermined structure,
and
b. a peptide that
i. contains an amino acid sequence that is derived from
a superantigen,
10 ii. has the ability to bind to a V β chain of a T cell
receptor, and
iii. has a modified ability to bind to MHC class II
antigens compared to the superantigen from which the
peptide is derived,
15 which parts are covalently linked together.
2. The conjugate according to claim 1, **characterized** in that
a. the biospecific affinity counterpart is directed towards
a cell surface structure, and that
20 b. the conjugate has the ability to activate T-lymphocytes
to lyse cells that exhibit the cell surface structure on
their surface.
3. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1-2,
25 **characterized** in that the biospecific affinity counterpart
is an antibody or an antigen binding fragment of an
antibody.
4. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1-3,
30 **characterized** in that it is a fusion protein.
5. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1-4,
characterized in that the peptide is a mutated superantigen.
- 35 6. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1-5,

003699 0299
26520 995280

characterized in that the peptide is derived from a superantigen and that its ability to bind to MHC class II antigens is altered with at least 10 %.

- 5 7. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1-6, **characterized** in that the superantigen is staphylococcal enterotoxin A, B, C₁, C₂, D, or E.
- 10 8. The conjugate according to claim 7, **characterized** in that the superantigen in addition may be derived from staphylococcal enterotoxin H
- 15 9. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1-8, **characterized** in that the structure against which the biospecific affinity counterpart is directed is a structure that is expressed on the cell surface during a disease, for instance a cancer, a viral infection, an autoimmune disease or a parasitic infestation.
- 20 10. A method for the lysis of mammalian cells, **characterized** in that the cells are contacted with T-lymphocytes and a conjugate according to any one of claims 2-9 in which the biospecific affinity counterpart is directed against a surface structure on the cells that are to be lysed, said incubation being performed under conditions allowing for lyse of said cells.
- 25 11. A method for selective lysis of cells (I) that are present together with other cells (II) and that express a structure that is preferentially occurring on those cells (I) that are to be lysed, **characterized** in that the cells (I together with II) simultaneously are contacted with a conjugate according to any one of claims 2-9 in which the biospecific affinity counterpart is directed towards a surface structure
- 30 on the cells (I) that are to be lysed, said contact being performed under conditions permitting lysis.
- 35

0875599 073697

12. A method according to claim 11, **characterized** in that the cells (I) are associated with diseased conditions, such as a cancer, a viral infection, a parasitic infestation, an autoimmune disease etc.

13. A method for the treatment of a diseased condition of a mammal, which condition means the presence of specific cells that are associated with the condition by the expression of a disease specific surface structure, **characterized** in that one administers to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a conjugate according to any one of calims 2-9 in which conjugate the biospecific affinity counterpart is directed against the disease specific structure.

add
C4

add
C1